

Brussels, 13 May 2026
(OR. en)

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REV 1

JEUN 74
EDUC 156
SOC 252
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SAN 291
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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Resolution of the Council and of the representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on the outcomes of the 11th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue

Delegations will find attached the above-mentioned resolution, approved by the Council (Education, Youth, Culture and Sport) at its meeting on 11 May 2026.

Resolution of the Council and of the representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on the outcomes of the 11th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

RECALLING THAT:

1. The Resolution on the European Union Youth Strategy 2019-2027¹, including Annex 1 (EU Youth Dialogue) and Annex 3 (European Youth Goals), promotes the enhanced participation of young people in decision-making processes and underscores the importance of engaging young people from diverse backgrounds.
2. The Resolution reviewing guidelines on the governance of the EU Youth Dialogue (EUYD)² calls for building on past experiences through a clearer and leaner process, focusing on one thematic priority per cycle and taking into account the outcomes of previous EUYD work cycles.

¹ Resolution of the Council of the European Union and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a framework for European cooperation in the youth field: The European Union Youth Strategy 2019-2027 (OJ C 456, 18.12.2018).

² Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council reviewing guidelines on the governance of the EU Youth Dialogue (OJ C, C/2025/3130, 2.6.2025).

3. The Council and the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council emphasise the important role played by National Working Groups (NWGs), national youth councils, youth organisations, youth work organisations, and international non- governmental youth organisations (INGYOs), as well as national authorities and Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps national agencies, in mobilising and advocating for young people, as witnessed during the European Year of Youth 2022³ and in the continuous partnership in the governance of the EUYD processes at local, regional, national and European level.
4. The Council Resolution on the outcomes of the 10th cycle of the EUYD⁴ invites the European Commission and the Member States to strengthen and improve the process by building on best practices, ensuring continuity between cycles, youth-friendly communication, and fostering transparency and regular feedback to participants through closer coordination within Presidency Trios.
5. The EU Youth Conferences serve as key milestones in each cycle, enabling meaningful interaction between policy makers, decision-makers and young people from across Europe, which makes it possible to analyse and exchange views on the cycle's thematic areas and emerging findings, and co-create relevant priorities, as well as recommendations that enhance the impact of the EUYD.

³ Conclusions of the Council and of the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on the legacy of the European Year of Youth 2022 (OJ C, C/2024/3543, 31.5.2024).

⁴ Resolution of the Council and of the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on the outcomes of the 10th cycle of the EUYD (OJ C, C/2024/7402, 10.12.2024).

TAKE NOTE THAT:

6. The purpose of this Resolution is to highlight and support the effective follow-up of the outcomes of the 11th cycle of the EUYD by all relevant actors at local, regional, national and European level. It also aims to strengthen the quality, continuity and visibility of the EUYD process and its results, while fostering greater transparency, engagement of young people, mutual learning and exchanges of experiences and best practices, building on the work and achievements of the 11th and preceding cycles.
7. The 11th cycle of the EUYD was led by the Trio Presidency Poland, Denmark and Cyprus and focused on European Youth Goal No #1 ‘Connecting EU with Youth’, which aims to foster the sense of youth belonging to the European project and to build a bridge between the EU and young people in order to enhance their trust in EU institutions and increase youth participation.
8. The 11th cycle of the EUYD was guided by cooperation among the three Member States holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, their respective national youth councils, the European Commission, and the European Youth Forum, through the European Steering Group as provided for in the guidelines on the governance of the EUYD.

RECOGNISE THAT:

9. In light of current geopolitical and societal challenges, including demographic change, the rise of disinformation and polarisation, and the erosion of democratic trust, it is vital to strengthen young people’s connection with the European Union and its institutions, by actively fostering youth participation and promoting shared democratic values as part of the Union values pursuant to Article 2 TEU and EU fundamental rights enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

10. European Youth Goal No #1 ‘Connecting EU with Youth’ aims to ensure that young people are involved, represented, engaged, and empowered as active citizens in a resilient, democratic and united Europe.

ACKNOWLEDGE THAT:

11. The EUYD is a comprehensive mechanism for creating inclusive and safe spaces and opportunities for sharing views, giving all young people, including those with fewer opportunities, a stronger voice and ensuring that they can participate in shaping the present and the future of the European Union. Such inclusive and safe spaces could be created, for example, through youth centres, youth non-governmental organisations, outreach youth work and community-based approaches.
12. The EUYD enables direct, meaningful and respectful dialogue between young people, civil society organisations, researchers and decision-makers at all levels, as well as Member States and European institutions.
13. The establishment of the EUYD secretariat within the European Youth Forum, to be operational at the start of the 12th cycle, together with the new onboarding procedure for future presidencies, is crucial to strengthening institutional memory and ensuring the continuity and effectiveness of the EUYD. It is essential that these initiatives, which support continuity and knowledge transfer among EUYD stakeholders, are maintained and further strengthened over time.

14. The consultations conducted within the 11th cycle of the EUYD by the NWGs involved nearly 40 000 young people across the European Union, as well as in candidate and potential candidate countries⁵. A wide range of consultation methods was used by the NWGs, such as focus groups, workshops, and youth dialogue events, both in online and in-person formats, as well as national mechanisms and tools. The process reached a significant number of new participants, with over 90 % engaged in the EUYD for the first time, demonstrating a meaningful reach of the consultations. Acknowledging this progress, it remains important to pursue ongoing efforts aimed at increasing overall participation and fostering greater engagement from young people and youth stakeholders.

WELCOME:

15. The outcomes of the EU Youth Conferences held during the Trio Poland – Denmark – Cyprus Presidency, as the building blocks of the 11th cycle of the EUYD under European Youth Goal No #1 ‘Connecting EU with Youth’.
16. National initiatives aimed at implementing and promoting youth mainstreaming across public policies, recognising that a cross-sectoral approach is essential in addressing different needs and aspirations of young people from diverse backgrounds, whether in organised groups or individually.
17. The implementation of the Resolution reviewing the guidelines on the governance of the EUYD, which provides guidance for the actors involved, defining their roles and responsibilities at all levels and clarifying the context within which their activities take place. This contributes to improved systematic follow-up, dissemination and visibility of the EUYD’s outcomes at all relevant levels and strengthens the process’s inclusiveness, transparency and effectiveness.

⁵ Moxon D., Bárta O. (2025). EUYD11 Results of the Consultation Phase: Connecting the EU with Youth. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.16911319.

18. The 4th European Youth Work Convention⁶ hosted in May 2025 by the Government of Malta - *Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ* (Malta's national youth agency) - and the European Union Programmes Agency (EUPA) for Malta, together with the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership, placed particular emphasis on reinforcing the strategic importance of youth work in Europe. The Convention resulted in a report containing a roadmap and accompanying timeline which demonstrates how the conclusions of the Convention can inform, underpin and feature in European and national youth policies and strategies in the years ahead.⁷

ACKNOWLEDGE THE COMMISSION'S INITIATIVES:

19. The establishment of the European Commission President's Youth Advisory Board⁸ to support dialogue between youth representatives and the highest political level of the EU, creating further opportunities for meaningful youth participation within the Union's decision-making processes in synergy with various Union policy initiatives such as the EUYD.
20. The continuation and further development of the Youth Policy Dialogues⁹ with Commissioners, as a start in creating a valuable platform for direct exchanges between young people and EU decision-makers and as a forum for fostering mutual understanding, transparency and trust across different policy areas.

⁶ <https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/4th-european-youth-work-convention->

⁷ <https://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/42128013/266254265/4th+European+Youth+Work+Convention+%E2%80%93+Final+Report.pdf/474159ed-327c-e112-9c3b-e0f7daeb83f7?t=1774343543182>

⁸ The President's Youth Advisory Board – European Youth Portal - https://youth.europa.eu/strategy/pyab_en.

⁹ Youth Policy Dialogues - European Youth Portal - https://youth.europa.eu/youth-policy/dialogues_en.

21. The establishment and regular convening of the EU Youth Stakeholders Group¹⁰, bringing together key European youth organisations, national authorities, institutions and networks to support the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy. This forum provides a space for coordination, exchange of expertise and policy feedback, thereby strengthening the link between EU-level policymaking as regards youth and young people's realities on the ground.

TAKE NOTE OF:

22. The topic priority of the next Trio Presidency (Ireland, Lithuania and Greece) based on European Youth Goal No #4 'Information and Constructive Dialogue'.

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE OUTCOMES OF THE EU YOUTH CONFERENCES:

23. The outcomes of the EU Youth Conference in Lublin¹¹, where young people emphasised the need to increase young people's hope in a democratic and safe future by increasing their trust in democratic institutions at all levels, resilience and contribution to peacebuilding, in order to prevent demotivation, disengagement and political alienation.
24. The outcomes of the EU Youth Conference in Copenhagen¹², where young people engaged in structured dialogue with each other and with high-level decision-makers, created a range of recommendations for the future Erasmus+ programme (2028-2034), and through a voting procedure selected the final recommendations as regards the programme's structure, objectives, new funding stream, application and reporting process and introducing Erasmus+ Youth as a distinct section of the programme.

¹⁰ EU Youth Stakeholders Group - European Youth Portal - https://youth.europa.eu/strategy/euyouthstrategygroup_en.

¹¹ Bárta, O., Moxon D. (editors): Bielska, A., Pavlovyh A. (2025). EUYD11 EU Youth Conference in Lublin, Poland. Conference Report. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.15118224.

¹² Bárta O., Moxon D. (2025). EUYD11 EU Youth Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. Conference Report. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.17293004.

25. The outcomes of the EU Youth Conference¹³ organised by the Cyprus Presidency, where young people reflected on how EU policies can become more youth-friendly by effectively addressing their needs, by strengthening meaningful participation of young people across all stages of the policy cycle and by improving the follow-up by the EU institutions to the recommendations formulated at the EU Youth Conferences.
26. Recommendations developed and put forward by young people at the abovementioned three conferences, as set out in Annex I to this document.

INVITE THE MEMBER STATES TO:

27. Take into account the outcomes of the 11th cycle of the EUYD where the consultation results¹⁴ indicate that, in the view of young people, the sense of belonging and trust in the EU, as well as support for the common values of the EU, can be built by improving civic education, especially within schools, on topics related to Europe and the EU, such as its values and the functioning of EU institutions.
28. Continue supporting EUYD stakeholders in reaching out and meaningfully involving young people from rural areas, outermost regions, and disadvantaged socio-economic contexts, through targeted outreach and support mechanisms, including by supporting participation at local and regional level.
29. Support the contribution of the EUYD to the revision of the European Youth Goals, in line with the results of the 11th cycle of the EUYD consultation.

¹³ Moxon D., Bárta, O., (2026). EU Youth Conference in Nicosia, Cyprus & Online. Conference Report. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19188766.

¹⁴ Moxon D., Bárta O. (2025). EUYD11 Results of the Consultation Phase: Connecting the EU with Youth. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.16911319.

INVITE THE COMMISSION AND THE MEMBER STATES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF SUBSIDIARITY AND WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE SPHERES OF COMPETENCE, TO:

30. Take into account the outcomes of the 11th cycle of the EUYD where the consultation results¹⁵ indicate that, in the view of young people, the sense of belonging and trust in the EU, as well as support for the common values of the EU, can be built by:
 - i) Strengthening young people’s democratic voice and influence on policy-making;
 - ii) Ensuring that new policies in all fields are youth-friendly by adopting long-term, future-oriented thinking and considering the views of young people and the impact of policies on young people and future generations.
31. Continue strengthening mechanisms for youth mainstreaming and regular youth participation in policy-making at all levels, by promoting both formal and informal dialogue between young people and decision-makers, by making use of youth impact assessments, youth checks and other relevant measures, and by further developing formalised youth participation mechanisms, including other flexible mechanisms, to encourage more young people to engage in civic life and policymaking, where appropriate.
32. Develop and support digital literacy actions, co-designed with youth stakeholders when appropriate, and aimed at young people and those working with young people, focusing, inter alia, on media literacy, cybersecurity, AI literacy and ethical AI use.

¹⁵ Moxon D., Bárta O. (2025). EUYD11 Results of the Consultation Phase: Connecting the EU with Youth. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.16911319.

33. Further support and utilise available European programmes and other instruments as tools for promoting civic education, enhancing youth work and non-formal learning, promoting EU values, supporting the participation of young people and youth organisations in democratic life and developing the digital resilience and preparedness of young people.
34. Facilitate and contribute to the exchange of best practices and experiences, as appropriate, in particular regarding ways to engage young people in the EUYD consultations, with the primary aim of reaching out to a wider and more diverse range of young people.
35. Explore ways to follow up on and take forward, where possible and relevant in the national context, the recommendations from the 11th cycle of the EUYD, as set out in Annex 1 to this document.

INVITE THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF SUBSIDIARITY TO:

36. Take into account the outcomes of the 11th cycle of the EUYD where the consultation results¹⁶ indicate that, in the view of young people, the sense of belonging and trust in the EU, as well as support for the common values of the EU, can be built by:
 - i) continuing to enhance the transparency of EU decision-making and demonstrating the relevance and impact of EU institutions on young people's day-to-day lives;
 - ii) promoting communication campaigns from EU institutions to foster EU values and strengthen young people's access to information on EU decision-making.

¹⁶ Moxon D., Bárta O. (2025). EUYD11 Results of the Consultation Phase: Connecting the EU with Youth. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.16911319.

37. Identify ways to simplify access to EU funding through current EU programmes, including application processes and reporting, for projects supporting youth issues, including youth resilience, civic participation, and democratic engagement.
 38. Continue to support and further enhance the EUYD through transparent follow-up mechanisms such as the planned guidelines on monitoring and follow-up, by increasing its visibility and outreach and by continued efforts to support continuity between cycles in the EUYD such as the onboarding process for incoming Trio Presidencies.
 39. Further enhance the effectiveness of the Commission initiatives that provide important opportunities to bring young people's voices into EU-level decision-making by promoting stronger synergies, coherence and alignment between them.
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JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE 11TH CYCLE
OF THE EU YOUTH DIALOGUE - ‘CONNECTING EU WITH YOUTH’

The ideas and opinions of young people shared at the EU Youth Conferences held in March 2025 in Lublin, in September 2025 in Copenhagen and in March 2026 in Nicosia were focused on European Youth Goal No #1 ‘Connecting young people with the EU’. The recommendations reflect the process that started with the Polish Presidency, continued with the Danish Presidency and ended with the Cyprus Presidency.

The EU Youth Conference which was held in Lublin from 2 to 5 March 2025 highlighted the need to strengthen the EUYD by ensuring the meaningful involvement of young people at all stages of decision-making. Through workshops on youth engagement, European values, civic education, digital safety, and participation in decision-making, participants exchanged experiences, identified barriers to youth involvement, and formulated recommendations to enhance young people’s influence on EU policy. The Conference further addressed the importance of fostering a sense of community among young Europeans, tackling the democratic deficit and transparency challenges within EU institutions, and rebuilding trust in the Union. Finally, it underlined the need to promote core EU values – including democracy, solidarity, and human rights – and to integrate these principles more effectively into youth engagement initiatives.

The main conclusions of the Conference, which are relevant for the entire 11th cycle of the EUYD, include recommendations to strengthen the connection between the EU and young people, restore trust in democratic institutions, foster resilience, and promote youth contributions to peacebuilding. The Conference underlined the need for enhanced youth engagement, transparency in legislative processes, and the active consideration of youth voices, while highlighting the proposal to designate a European Year of Resilience to address security challenges, social polarisation and future crises.

Specifically, the main conclusions of the Lublin Conference, which have been relevant topics during the entire 11th cycle, were that:

1. Young people stressed that there is a need to increase young people's hope in a democratic and safe future by increasing their trust in democratic institutions at all levels, resilience and contribution to peacebuilding, in order to prevent demotivation, disengagement and political alienation. This can be achieved by:
 - Declaring a European Year of Resilience and increasing long-term, easily accessible EU funding for youth resilience projects and crisis preparedness;
 - Strengthening youth engagement in decision-making through measures such as youth-led European Citizenship initiatives, youth checks at national and European level, and the EUYD. These should incorporate transparent follow-up processes which track the implementation of policy proposals, as well as partnerships with youth organisations on communication and outreach to reach a diverse range of young people and better enable young leaders in order to bridge the gap between young people and EU policymakers;
 - Encouraging young candidates in elections through measures such as quotas, political traineeships lowering the age of eligibility, and giving young people a real chance of getting elected;

- Introducing civic education as a mandatory subject in formal education, with a comprehensive curriculum, delivered and created in cooperation with non-governmental organisations. This should nurture civic responsibility, promote European values, civil society, critical thinking, democratic participation, and the role of democratic institutions.
2. Disinformation and misinformation threaten democratic values, erode trust in institutions and create polarisation. This leads to scepticism, disengagement, and mental health issues among young people as well as an inability to make informed choices. Strengthening young people’s resilience within the digital landscape and further protecting the democratic values the EU is based on can be achieved by:
- co-designing digital learning frameworks together with young people (formal, non-formal, informal) in domains such as understanding algorithms, media literacy, cybersecurity, fact-checking, digital footprints, information management, critical thinking, ethical media and AI use;
 - implementing transparent verification and accountability processes for social media, as well as media quality labelling to encourage responsible digital behaviour;
 - supporting youth-led businesses and start-ups in the field of social media and AI.

At the EU Youth Conference which took place in Copenhagen from 21 to 23 September 2025, young people were given a voice in EU policymaking regarding the future Erasmus+ 2028-2034 programme by engaging in working groups to create recommendations, and subsequently voting on the final recommendations as well as discussing them with high-level decision makers. As a result, the process as well as the conclusions of the Conference were relevant for the entire 11th cycle as it provided young people with the opportunity to engage in direct dialogue with EU decision-makers regarding an ongoing political negotiation in the EU, thereby connecting the EU with youth. The eight recommendations made were:

- Safeguarding a dedicated youth chapter within Erasmus+ 2028-2034, with an earmarked budget of 15 %;
- Distributing Erasmus+ 2028-2034 grants before the start of the mobility;
- Ensuring a dedicated space for youth volunteering and solidarity;
- Utilising Erasmus+ 2028-2034 to address the external challenges facing young people such as those relating to disinformation and global instability;
- Creating a dedicated Erasmus+ 2028-2034 funding stream for soft skills and citizenship skills;
- Simplifying the application and reporting process for Erasmus+ 2028- 2034 opportunities;
- Promoting preparedness, resilience and peacebuilding through Erasmus+ 2028-2034;
- Introducing Erasmus+ Youth as a distinct section within the Erasmus+ 2028-2034.

At the EU Youth Conference organised by the Cyprus Presidency, which took place in a virtual format from 18 to 20 March 2026, young people focused on exploring ways on how to enhance the youth friendliness of policies at national and EU level.

Several recommendations focus on making EU policy-making more youth-centred, transparent and responsive. They include binding participation standards for youth-friendly policies, mainstreaming youth topics and European Youth Goals, and establishing EU-wide digital and institutional feedback systems, while ensuring more supportive, inclusive and accessible communication with young people in both digital and offline formats. The Conference also called for specific social and educational measures, including enhanced support for housing and stronger synergies between non-formal learning and formal education settings.

The eight recommendations made were:

- To protect young people’s access to housing. The European Commission should create an Overcrowded City List initiative to reduce housing pressure, and also provide stronger support for student accommodation in Erasmus+.
- To create participation standards for the development of youth-friendly policies. These should ensure mandatory and meaningful inclusion of young people across all policy development stages, clearly state institutional mandates, and promote structured, transparent feedback mechanisms.
- To establish a single accessible, inclusive, long-term, digital feedback mechanism across all EU institutions to ensure continuous monitoring of youth recommendations made within participatory mechanisms, transparent communication of results, and active youth involvement in evaluation.

- To mainstream youth topics across all Directorates and policy areas, the European Commission should better utilise existing tools such as the EU Youth Dialogue and the European Youth Goals.
- To adopt supportive and inclusive communication strategies on policy making at the European and national levels, ensuring that youth-friendly information is available in both digital and non-digital formats accessible to all.
- To support non-formal learning in formal education settings within Erasmus+, by creating earmarked funding and mandating collaboration between educational institutions and civil society organisations.
- To follow up on the EU Youth Conference recommendations, the EU institutions should establish a feedback system outlining the action taken by EU institutions in response to these recommendations, ensuring accountability toward the demands of young people.
- To allocate a dedicated budget within Erasmus+ for micro projects with a positive impact on local communities run by small-scale youth organisations or informal groups of young people. This should use a flat-rate mechanism with simple application procedures.

The recommendations do not impose any formal requirements as regards youth policies at relevant levels. However, they can serve as a source of inspiration for Member States and European institutions.